

I am particularly pleased that the legislation creates the Medical Information Technology Assessment Board which will work in conjunction with the Department of Health and Human Services to develop national interoperability standards. I was pleased to work with the Committee to get this provision included in the bill. These national standards will allow all aspects of health care technology to become compatible. Thus, computers, hand held electronic charts and other new devices that hold a variety of medical information, including laboratory and radiology results, pharmacy orders, etc., will all be compatible. This compatibility will greatly reduce medical errors. Further, the legislation authorizes grants to test the interoperability standards. This is vitally important as it will prove the efficacy, usability, and scalability of interoperability standards, thus encouraging hospitals and other health care facilities and providers to adopt the standards and invest in medical informatics.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a cosponsor of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act, and I thank both the Energy and Commerce and Ways and Means Committees for working in a bipartisan fashion to produce good legislation on such an important issue.

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act. This important legislation takes a number of steps to reduce medical errors.

In November of 1999, the Institute of Medicine released its groundbreaking report, *To Err is Human*, which raises serious concerns about shortcomings in the area of patient safety.

According to some estimates, as many as 98,000 people die in any given year from medical errors that occur in hospitals. That's more than die from motor vehicle accidents, breast cancer, or AIDS.

The costs of preventable adverse events are staggering. The direct and indirect costs of medical errors range from \$17 billion to \$29 billion. By any standard, that is far too much.

The Institute of Medicine recommended a number of options to help reduce medical errors, such as the creation of a Center for Patient Safety within the Agency for Health Quality and Research.

They also suggested a new system of reporting, and better use of technological advancements.

The legislation we are considering today incorporates many of the suggestions made by IOM, and will go a long way to help health care providers improve patient safety and prevent medical errors.

This legislation creates a "culture of safety" by encouraging providers to report medical mistakes. By reporting these problems, physicians and other providers are able to learn from their mistakes and prevent them from happening in the future.

This legislation also permits the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to provide to patient safety organizations and to States technical assistance with reporting systems for health care errors, to es-

tablish a process to certify patient safety organizations, and to develop or adopt voluntary national standards promoting the interoperability of information technology systems involved with health care delivery.

These provisions will go a long way in helping our hospitals and physicians offices a safer place. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and hope to see it signed by the President this year.

Mr. JOHN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LAHOOD). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 663, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will now resume on two of the motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 659, by the yeas and nays;

H.R. 389, by the yeas and nays.

Pursuant to House Resolution 67, the official photograph will be taken between these two votes, each of which will be conducted as a 15-minute vote.

HOSPITAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE ACT OF 2003

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The pending business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 659, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. GARY G. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 659, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 419, nays 0, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 56]

YEAS—419

Abercrombie
Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin

Alexander
Allen
Andrews
Baca

Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin

Ballance
Ballenger
Barrett (SC)
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bass
Beauprez
Becerra
Bell
Bereuter
Berkley
Berry
Biggert
Billirakis
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehlert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Bradley (NH)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Brown (OH)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite,
 Ginny
Burgess
Burns
Burr
Burton (IN)
Buyer
Calvert
Camp
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardin
Cardoza
Carson (IN)
Carson (OK)
Carter
Case
Castle
Chabot
Chocola
Clay
Clyburn
Coble
Cole
Collins
Conyers
Cooper
Costello
Cox
Cramer
Crane
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cubin
Culberson
Cummings
Cunningham
Davis (AL)
Davis (CA)
Davis (FL)
Davis (IL)
Davis (TN)
Davis, Jo Ann
Davis, Tom
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
DeLay
DeMint
Deutsch
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Dooley (CA)
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier

Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Fletcher
Foley
Forbes
Ford
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Frost
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Gibbons
Gillmor
Gingrey
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Goss
Granger
Graves
Green (TX)
Green (WI)
Greenwood
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Gutknecht
Hall
Harman
Harris
Hart
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Hayworth
Hefley
Hensarling
Herger
Hill
Hinchey
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hoolley (OR)
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Isakson
Israel
Issa
Istook
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
 (TX)
Janklow
Jefferson
Jenkins
John
Johnson (CT)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kelly
Kennedy (MN)
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk

Klecza
Kline
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaHood
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Leach
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas (KY)
Lucas (OK)
Lynch
Majette
Maloney
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (MO)
McCarthy (NY)
McCollum
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McInnis
McIntyre
McKeon
McNulty
Meehan
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Menendez
Mica
Michaud
Millender-
 McDonald
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mollohan
Moore
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Murphy
Murtha
Muschgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Nethercutt
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nunes
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Osborne
Ose
Otter
Owens
Oxley
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Paul
Payne
Pearce
Pelosi
Pence
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts